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# The Tech News Volume 14, Issue 25, April 10 1923

The Students of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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# TECH NEWS



VOL. XIV.

WORCESTER, MASS., APRIL 10, 1923

No. 25

## CHANGES NEEDED IN METHOD OF ATHLETIC ELECTIONS

### Present Conditions Intolerable

#### AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED

Under the present organization of the Athletic Association, the recommendations of men eligible for election as manager and assistant managers of Tech sports are made by the managers of the sports in question. The captain submits a recommendation if he sees fit to do so, but through custom this has rarely been done. In these recommendations the men are graded on a competitive basis. These recommendations are submitted to the Athletic council, and then the council elects the managers and assistant managers from the list of men recommended. As the constitution stands now a majority vote is not required.

For several years this system of election worked well and the men doing the most work, showing the best managerial ability, and having the best scholarship were the men selected from the list recommended. This is as it should be. But, during the present year a situation has developed leading to a decided miscarriage of justice in several elections. The Athletic council have not selected the men who have earned a first place in the recommendations by hard work and ability, but have seen fit to pick men graded much lower in the recommendations they received.

Such a condition cannot continue without a decidedly harmful effect upon all the athletic sports at Tech. Men will not go out for managerships and work as they should, if they feel that no matter what their efforts, there isn't a chance of being elected. Merit and not favoritism should be the chief consideration of the group that elects these men, else Tech's reputation for good sportsmanship will suffer.

In the interest of fair play, and Tech's athletics changes must be made in the present system to make a recurrence of a situation like the present one impossible. For that purpose the following amendments to the constitution of the Athletic Association are proposed:

### Y. M. C. A. HOLDS ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Last Thursday the annual Y. M. C. A. elections were held at the "Y". The results of the elections were as follows:

President, H. S. Johnson, '24; vice president, J. N. Alberti, '24; treasurer, R. C. Jordan, '25; secretary, G. Buddy, '26; members of the advisory committee, Z. W. Coombs; faculty, C. A. Bartlett, '85, A. C. Vinal, '99.

**WEDNESDAY IS  
LAST DAY TO  
REGISTER  
FOR MAKEUPS**

1. The manager, the assistant manager, the captain, the coach, of the interested sport, and the head of the Physical education Dept. shall each submit recommendations for two candidates for assistant manager. These recommendations shall be in writing, giving the reasons for selecting the two men and rating the men as first and second choice. The Athletic Council shall elect the assistant manager from the three candidates receiving the highest credit in the written recommendations.

2. That all the assistant managers be elected by a majority vote of the council present.

3. That the council for the next year be elected in May, to take office the following September.

The Athletic Council has shown that it cannot always be depended upon to give a fair and unbiased decision. It is fair to suppose that the five men suggested above will know most about the merits of the candidates since these men have intimate contact with them during the season. It is also reasonable to suppose that such a group will consider the candidates for the best interest of the sport.

Without a majority vote being necessary men have been elected with only three votes out of eight. This is wrong as it makes it possible for three men to oppose the wishes of five.

It is felt that May is a wiser time for the election of student Council members than September. If the election is held in September many Freshmen will vote who are not familiar with the candidates or conditions at Tech, whereas by May they have had opportunity to know the men who are candidates and their qualifications.

All Tech men should be interested in bringing this matter to a satisfactory conclusion, because it is of vital importance to the welfare of Tech's athletics. Let's see to it that fair play is used in all the elections, by making anything else impossible.

### COSMOPOLITAN CLUB DANCE SOON HERE

The Prom and the Tech Show are over, and the time has come to think of the next big dance on the Hill, namely, the Cosmopolitan Club Dance. Those who have attended this dance for the past two years, know they can expect something entirely new and different in decorations and in lighting effects.

The date, which has already been announced by posters all over the Hill, is Friday, April 27, and the music will be by the Tech "Serenaders," whose popularity needs no comment.

Through the efforts of A. P. Greca, a senior member of the club, Miss Helen Demmler of Fitchburg, a graduate of the Faelton Piano-forte School of

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4.)

## BASKETBALL CAPT. ELECTED

### 3 LETTER MAN HONORED

#### Ellery Higgins Chosen

At a meeting of the basketball letter men last Monday night Ellery H. Higgins was elected captain for next year.

Besides "Tom" Berry, "Hank" is the only three letter man on the hill, having won "W's" in baseball, basketball, and soccer, and it seems to be a very fitting reward for his athletic ability to honor him by this award of the captainship of basketball for the coming year.

Higgins' home is in Orange, Mass., where he played basketball on the high school five. For the past three years at Tech, "Hank" has continued to keep the form that he gained in high school by playing in the Interfraternity Basketball Series. He was awarded a second team letter in Tech's most popular sport last year.

"Hank" came into the limelight this year in one of the opening games of the season, the coach having picked him as Pickwick's worthy successor. When our basket was left unguarded and one of our opponents' shots was in danger of ringing up another two points, it was "Hank" who came to the rescue and in a leap gained possession of the ball and carried it into safer territory.

It is altogether fitting that Higgins should be awarded the captainship and it is hoped that he with Coach Bigler's aid will be able to produce another championship team, similar to that of the years, '19, '20, and '21.

## OUTDOOR SEASON OPENS

### Tennis and Baseball Schedules Announced

#### BASEBALL

The baseball schedule has been completed and includes some worthy teams as follows:

- Apr. 19. Rhode Island State at Kingston
- 20. Northeastern
- 21. Trinity at Hartford
- 28. Rensselaer at Worcester
- May 2. Middlebury at Worcester
- 3. Boston University at Worcester
- 12. Mass. Agricultural College at Worcester
- 18. New Hampshire State at Worcester
- 19. Lowell at Worcester
- 26. Clark at Worcester

#### TENNIS

The tennis schedule has been completed and is presented herewith. It promises to be an interesting list.

- Apr. 28. Springfield at Worcester
- May 4. Colgate at Worcester
- 5. Brown at Providence
- 9. Clark at Clark
- 12. Boston University at Worcester
- 19. Rensselaer at Troy
- 22. Tufts at Worcester
- 25. Trinity at Worcester

## GAY WEEK-END COMES TO A CLOSE

### Both Affairs Highly Successful

#### JUNIOR PROM

The Junior Prom last Friday evening was without doubt equal to or better than any of the previous ones. The class of twenty-four have set up a mark for future classes to aim at. To those underclassmen present the affair was an enlightenment and an inspiration; it remains for them to keep in mind the things which make a Prom exceptional.

As has been the custom in the past years, the Bancroft ballroom was the scene of the event. Dancing began at nine o'clock and continued until eleven when supper was served in the main dining-room and grill. Devotion to Tersichore was resumed at twelve and given more or less attention until three. We say less because the balcony and more secluded corners became unexplainably popular.

Last year at the Prom the dresses were short. This year, long in accordance with the prevailing mode. We wonder about next year. It is obvious that a student of fashions need only attend the succeeding Proms to follow the fashions. Certain it is, that last Friday's affair was a delight to the eye. The flash and brilliance of the dresses made a sparkling sight.

The music was the best obtainable in New England. Wittstein's New Haven orchestra has the unusual faculty of being able to maintain its pep throughout the evening.

Over a hundred couples attended; the girls receiving combination card and vanity cases, the men combination card cases and memo pads as favors. Five of the fraternities attended the Prom as part of their respective house parties.

Professor and Mrs. George H. Haynes, Prof. and Mrs. Harold B. Smith, and Prof. and Mrs. Herbert P. Taylor, acted as patrons and patronesses. Six Sophomores, O. G. Soderstrom, K. J. Smith, R. B. Scott, U. R. Lamay, D. S. Burns and E. E. Franks, were the ushers.

### MUSICAL CLUB TRIP TO WEST BOYLSTON

On the sixteenth of March the Musical Clubs journeyed by auto-bus to West Boylston where they gave one of the best concerts of the season. The program was a varied and extensive one, several new novelties being introduced, not to speak of the marked improvement made on the more ancient numbers. Among the new numbers were the mandolin quartet composed of Burns, Stewart, Bemis, and MacAllister; an organ selection by Gillette, and a brand new reading entitled "Miss Kay Penoyer," by Wood, which was received with loud applause.

These new additions, together with the old faithful numbers, made it possible to put over a program in which it was not necessary to have any one group go on a second time.

#### TECH SHOW

The eleventh annual Tech Show was presented at Tuckerman Hall last Thursday and Saturday evenings, Apr. 5th and 7th. The parts were exceptionally well taken and "Here Comes the Bride" went off very smoothly under the careful direction of Jack Leigh. Mr. Leigh has had considerable experience in dramatics. It was his coaching which was one of the big reasons for the successful presentation of this difficult play. Added to the evening's program the Mandolin Club played a few selections, before the play started and between the acts.

O. G. Soderstrom, '25, fulfilled exceptionally well the leading role of Frederick Tile a young lawyer who is practically bankrupt and is refused his sweetheart's hand for this reason. His sweetheart, H. A. Emerson, '25, played the leading lady's part very well. Both of these men played in last year's show and the experience gained aided them a great deal in the parts this year.

The part of Thomas Ashley, an eccentric old man, who was Tile's office clerk, was taken by S. R. Wendin, '25. This part was strictly a character part, and required some real acting on Wendin's part to put it across. A. W. Fuller, '26, had a very difficult character part to play as the erratic, tight-fisted father, which he fulfilled to perfection. D. G. Downing, '26, made an excellent lawyer, and if looks mean anything, he should enter the bar rather than become an engineer. R. F. Norton, '26, played very well in the part as sister of H. A. Emerson, '26. No one could blame Jimmie Carlton, the part played by C. H. Nordstrom, for falling in love with her. G. M. Seidel, '23, made a very dangerous appearing Spaniard who was the root of all evil. He played the part very well and kept the audience in smiles the entire time he was on the stage. The role of the bride was played perfectly by A. H. Wendin, '26. God have pity on the man who has to sit opposite a face like hers all through life. There is no wonder that she had to marry often, as any man would commit suicide before he would live long with her. H. W. Tule, '26, took the part of Hawkins, the servant, very creditably. A. R. Brown, '25 and W. F. Ames, '26, as judge and assistant were a comical pair. R. G. Heseltine, '25, and E. P. Wood, '26, played their roles very well.

#### PLOT OF PLAY

The plot of the play is briefly as follows:

Frederick Tile finds himself practically bankrupt and is refused his sweetheart's hand for this reason. He decides that he must find a way of getting some "easy money." He has hardly decided this before a rival lawyer enters his office and offers him \$100,000 if he will marry a girl whom

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5.)

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### EDITORIALS

#### THE CAMPUS

Winter has passed and it is time that the appearances of the Campus were being improved. Winter always leaves the Institute and its surroundings looking pretty dull and the Campus is still in a bad condition resulting from the ice storm of the winter before last. Now is the time to start fixing up so that during the spring and summer when next year's prospective Frosh come around to visit us and look us over, we'll have pleasant surroundings to show them. A good looking Campus plays an important part in a man's choice of a school, and with our location on the Hill, and such surroundings as Salisbury Park, Park Avenue, etc., we ought to be able to develop a very attractive environment to show our prospective students.

### MAKEUP EXAMINATIONS

How many students pause for a moment to consider the real reasons why they have failed subjects and then are compelled to spend these beautiful spring days preparing for "Makeups"? There is no doubt some do hesitate for a second to reflect but by far the greater majority just pass the blame on to the faculty and let it go at that, when they should blame no one but themselves.

There are three main reasons why they fail courses and are required to pass makeup exams in order to receive credit. The first cause is prolonged sickness, in which case the student is unable to get the work entirely made up by the time of the final exam and is therefore unable to pass. This is the only real good reason for taking a makeup and it is no discredit to the student who fails in this class.

The second reason is supported by those who are mentally unable to grasp the subjects at hand or in other

words "are not built for engineers."

This division is much larger than the previously named one and should contain two subdivisions. In the first case the students may be too young to grasp the subject or secondly they may not be scientifically inclined and are only wasting the best years of their life with a profession which has no connection with their ideals in life. These men are of no benefit to the Institute and they should go at once in the direction in which their life ambition leads them.

By far the largest division of the three is composed of both ambitious and lazy men. The former fall into this class for the same reason that they have become too ambitious and have gone too far into activities, putting them before their studies. Caesar was ambitious, and remember what happened to him. Tech is no place for the lazy man, the man who is willing to let his lessons slide. A good motto for this type of man to learn is "Work and Tech works with you, loaf and you loaf alone."

The time is drawing near for makeups: maybe it would be a good idea to stop for a moment and decide to which class you belong and make up your minds that this is the last makeup you will have to take, by just working to uphold your ideals in life.

### VACATIONS AGAIN

As a result of the growing discontent with the present system of vacations at the Institute which has been voiced several times heretofore in the columns of this page, definite action on the part of the student body is being contemplated. This week a petition will be placed before the four classes at their respective class meetings, at which time the students of the Institute will have an opportunity to express their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the existing policy of vacations.

This is the purpose of the present petition, merely to obtain the feeling of the student body on the matter. If the results show that the majority find the present system to their taste the matter will automatically be dropped. If, on the other hand, as conditions seem to indicate, the present vacation system proves to be generally unsatisfactory, further steps will be taken to place the matter formally before the faculty.

The text of the petition to go before

the classes this week is somewhat as follows:

We, the students of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, having found the present system of shortened and poorly placed vacations both unsatisfactory and inconvenient, hereby petition recognition of the fact by the faculty. We earnestly request that some measures be taken to remedy the present conditions and suggest, in event of such measures, that a committee of students be elected to collaborate with the Hour-Plan Committee.

### FRATERNITY NOTES

#### Lambda Chi Alpha

The guests at the annual house party were: Nathalie Gray, Orange, Mass.; Evelyn Tripp, Schenectady, N. Y.; Ruth Chapman, Rutland, Vt.; Marjorie Fish, Worcester, Mass.; Mary Kittredge, Clinton, Mass.; Pearl MacLane, New Bedford, Mass.; Prof. and Mrs. C. D. Knight chaperoned the affair. It began Thursday evening with an informal dance.

#### Phi Gamma Delta

The following were guests at the house party: Dorothy May Emily Kimball, Irene MacGowan, Lois Briggs, Beatrice Jacques, Ellen Adams, Dorothy Adams, Florence Sumner, Alice Batchelder, Louise Brush, Amelia Bidwell, Barbara Seymour, Dorothy Maxson, Emily Snow, Elizabeth Hawk, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wheeler chaperoned the party.

#### Alpha Tau Omega

The guests at the house party were: Marian Robinson, Worcester, Mass.; Mildred Willard, Springfield, Mass.; Ursula Millnes, Springfield, Mass.; Jennie Jones, Albany, N. Y.; Marian Palmer, Worcester, Mass.; Ruth Aldrich, Hartford, Ct.; Dorothy Vail, Worcester, Mass.; Sylvia Mackie, Northampton, Mass.

#### Delta Tau

R. H. Martin was at the house over the week-end.

#### Theta Chi

Bob Perry, '21, was a visitor at the house last week.

H. B. Austin was a visitor from Rhode Island State College.

Walter Arrington, ex-'21, stopped at the house on his way to the convention.

The house wishes to announce the pledging of J. N. Alberti, '24.

#### Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Sperry, ex-'23, and Batchelder, ex-'24, were recent visitors at the house.

### EXTENSION COURSES

During the week there have been two interesting and instructive lectures given under the extension courses. The first one was given by Professor C. A. Read on Monday evening. The subject of the lecture was "Heat and Ventilation," and included a discussion of the methods of use, and the economic value of the various fuels, as well as a consideration of scientific ventilation and humidity as applied to the modern systems of ventilation.

The other lecture of the week, scheduled to be held on Friday afternoon, was held Wednesday in the Electrical Engineering building, April 4th. It was given by Professor A. W. Ewell on the subject "Aeronautics." The date was changed in order to supplement the lecture with several films which had arrived and which could not be kept over. The first picture showed the development of aviation from the first successful flight made by Wilbur Wright in Paris on Aug. 8, 1908, until the present time. The next was of the glider contests held in France recently. It showed the progress made in this interesting and comparatively new field by the various countries. The last film was of the bombing of a former German U-boat, a destroyer, and the first class battleship, the Alabama. The bombing was done by U. S. Army and Navy planes, and was carried on as a test of the various explosives and of their practicality in modern warfare. Both the lecture and the pictures were very interesting and instructive.

### COSMOPOLITAN CLUB DANCE

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2.)

Boston, has kindly consented to play and sing during the intermission. Miss Demmler is well known in Fitchburg for her musical ability, and her efforts well be greatly appreciated.

The committee in charge which consists of J. H. Tsui, chairman; O. G. Soderstrom, and C. M. Healey Jr., will shortly issue tickets, to be sold in each division. The dance is entirely informal, and the price will be \$1.10, which includes the war tax.

The patrons and patronesses are: President and Mrs. I. N. Hollis, Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Jennings, Prof. and Mrs. G. H. Haynes, Prof. and Mrs. H. F. Taylor, Prof. and Mrs. J. O. Phelan, Prof. Z. W. Coombs, and Prof. A. W. Wilmer Duff.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

A large map of the United States has been placed in the Alumni office, upon which is shown, by means of colored tacks, the geographical distribution of alumni. A study of this map will be made to determine the important centers about which alumni are located. There is ample opportunity for the creation of new distinct associations, thereby more firmly establishing the strength of the Alumni Association.

### TECH SHOW

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5.)


he has never seen. Since this is certainly the "easy money" which he has been wanting, to satisfy his would-be father-in-law, he accepts the proposition and is married at once. In the meantime, his girl escapes from her father and offers to elope with him, but he is unable to do this, of course. She is unwilling to go home for shame, and so she goes to the home of a friend who she learns has just left for California. Mr. Tile goes to the home of the same person and spends the night in the room next to hers. The father supposes, of course that they are married and tells the reporters all about the whole affair. Mr. Tile's wife, whom he has never seen, is attracted to the place by the article in the paper, and her presence causes many unforeseen complications. Finally, however, news comes that the owner of the large South American fortune at stake is dead, so that the marriage does no good to the swindlers who were trying to rob this rich man. Mr. Tile loses his \$100,000, but he wins a big law suit to make up for it. Another husband of the bride is found, so that their marriage is illegal. Thus Mr. Tile is left free to marry his sweetheart and live happily ever after.

## Business Building

THE selling of commodities is fundamental in every business, and selling life insurance affords the maximum of satisfaction and remuneration. For the life insurance salesman is a business builder and finds innumerable ways to serve the community and make himself indispensable in the conduct of modern affairs.

The life insurance salesman is not only a business builder but he is in business for himself, creating a competence permanent and continuous. It is the best paid work for those who are ambitious and willing to work, and who have the character and stamina necessary to stamp their individuality upon the business and on their community.

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## CHENEY CRAVATS

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It ties easily and hangs with a smoothness that is the last word in neckwear perfection.

Your haberdasher will gladly show you this new Cheney design—and many others, too—in tubulars and lined ties.

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## DEPARTMENT NOTES

## E. E. NOTES

About one half of the Senior class in Electrical Engineering are already located for positions. There are more than enough positions open for the remaining. At the present time there are more openings for the Juniors for three months and fifteen months work alike than are available.

Prof. Phelon who has been confined for ten days is better but it will be some time before he will be back.

Representatives of G. E. were here Friday to interview Seniors for Schenectady and Lynn. N. Y. Edison representatives will be here April 13. Western Union Telegraph representatives will be here Monday, April 2.

## M. E. NOTES

The following is taken from the Canadian Engineer, and has reference to the Water Power Conference, University of Toronto: "The lecture on Feb. 26th by Professor C. M. Allen, of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, on the 'Testing of Hydraulic Turbines and Measurement of Efficiency' was of unusual value. Professor Allen has probably conducted more tests of this nature than any other engineer in the United States or Canada. He has invented a number of appliances and various methods to be used on this work, and from his very extensive fund of practical experience, with the assistance of a great many slides, gave a particularly valuable address. He described briefly his salt solution method of determining the velocity in penstocks, which will undoubtedly prove of very great assistance to engineers in the future in hydraulic testing work."

H. H. Watson, '15, is Mechanical En-

gineer with the Crompton and Knowles Looms Works.

H. G. Saunders, '16, is with the Kinney Mfg. Co., Kansas City.

## CHEMISTRY DEPT.

Professors Zinn and Jennings are in attendance during the week April 24 at the semi-annual meeting of the American Chemical Society which is being held at New Haven. This meeting is expected to be one of the most well attended and interesting which have been held in recent years. The dedication of the new two million dollar Sterling Laboratory is to be made on Wednesday and many men of national and international importance in chemistry are to be present and give short addresses. Professor Jennings, who is a member of the councilors of the Society expects to attend their deliberations at the Monday session.

Mr. E. J. P. Fisher, who is metallurgical chemist at the R. Wallace & Sons Mfg. Co., Wallingford, Conn., was a visitor at the laboratory on Friday.

## C. E. NOTES

The next meeting of the C. E. society student branch will be Friday, April sixth. There will be an illustrated lecture on living-house construction, given by one of the members of the society, lantern slides being used to demonstrate.

This week is the end of the first period of the second semester. There will be made a number of changes in the courses.

The work in frame structure has been completed and the Seniors will start next week on Sanitary Engineering.

The Juniors have completed their course in Municipal Engineering and

start next week on Graphical Statics.

The Sophomores finished their course in Topographical Surveying and additional time will be given to Railroad Engineering the rest of the term. The Sophomore Mechanics start next month with surveying for two periods a week for the rest of the term in place of Machine Drawing.

## ALUMNI NOTES

On the evening of April 12, an "All college dinner" will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, at which representatives from one hundred different colleges are expected to be present. On the afternoon of the 12th the W. P. I. Alumni Association of Cleveland will hold a meeting. Tables will be reserved for them at the dinner that night. Prof. Taylor expects to be present at both these gatherings and also to attend the convention of Alumni Secretaries in Cleveland, April 12-14.

The Schenectady Alumni Association will meet on the evening of the 11th and the Buffalo Association on the evening of the 14th.

Prof. Taylor is preparing a map showing the number and distribution of alumni throughout the country. The numbers are designated by various colored pins stuck in the cities in which the men are located.

## SKEPTICAL CHYMISTS

The regular Skeptical Chymists' meeting was held Monday evening, April 2. A general discussion was held and plans made for next year. Mr. Fish spoke on Fertilizer as manufactured by the Wilcox Company which has a large plant near his home. The fertilizer is a by-product of Menhaden oil. There are three important steps in the process, cooking, pressing, and drying. The company owns ships which catch the menhaden which are then ground up and made into oil and fertilizer. A queer part is that the company employs no chemist but trusts mostly to luck. This shows that there are still some people who do not value chemistry very highly. The talk was very instructive and interesting. There are only to be three more meetings this year and a special effort is to be made to have the attendance as large as possible.

## CLASS MEETINGS

A meeting of the Sophomore Class was held last Thursday at which the Sophomore Hop committee gave a very favorable report. The Hop is to be held May eleventh at the Gym and promises to be a great dance.

The Freshman Class held a meeting Friday at which samples of caps for the class were shown. These are

to be procured within a few weeks and are to be worn either on or off the campus.

Tickets for the banquet are now on sale by the committee, and all those intending to go were urged to buy their ticket as quickly as possible.

## PROFESSOR H. B. SMITH SPEAKS TO FRESHMEN

Monday afternoon, April 2, Prof. H. B. Smith spoke to nearly one hundred Freshmen concerning the Electrical Department here on the Hill. He outlined briefly the subjects which are taught during the course and named the qualifications and experience of the instructors and professors. During his talk he said that the plans of several large electrical corporations to double their business within a few years offer a great opportunity to electrical engineers in the near future. In addition, many of the men who have worked on electricity ever since its development began will soon be dropping out and leaving vacancies which must be filled by new men. Prof. Smith pointed out thus, the unlimited opportunities for electrical engineers in the future and he proved the efficiency of the course here at Tech by the fact that so many alumni have been placed in responsible positions among the large electrical corporations.

← VOLTA EXPLAINING HIS



BATTERY TO NAPOLEON →

## How Electrical Engineering began

IT IS not enough to experiment and to observe in scientific research. There must also be interpretation. Take the cases of Galvani and Volta.

Oneday in 1786 Galvani touched with his metal instruments the nerves of a frog's amputated hind legs. The legs twitched in a very life-like way. Even when the frog's legs were hung from an iron railing by copper hooks, the phenomenon persisted. Galvani knew that he was dealing with electricity but concluded that the frog's legs had in some way generated the current.

Then came Volta, a contemporary, who said in effect: "Your interpretation is wrong. Two different metals in contact with a moist nerve set up currents of electricity. I will prove it without the aid of frog's legs."

Volta piled disks of different metals one on top of another and

separated the disks with moist pieces of cloth. Thus he generated a steady current. This was the "Voltaic pile"—the first battery, the first generator of electricity.

Both Galvani and Volta were careful experimenters, but Volta's correct interpretation of effects gave us electrical engineering.

Napoleon was the outstanding figure in the days of Galvani and Volta. He too possessed an active interest in science but only as an aid to Napoleon. He little imagined on examining Volta's crude battery that its effect on later civilization would be fully as profound as that of his own dynamic personality.

The effects of the work of Galvani and Volta may be traced through a hundred years of electrical development even to the latest discoveries made in the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company.



"Towering Masses"

The Garment Center Building  
New York City  
WALTER M. MASON, Architect  
Drawn by Hugh Ferriss

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tometry is defined to be the employ-  
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# INTERCOLLEGIATE BRIEFS

### Stevens

The latest addition to the Museum  
is one of the first automobiles import-  
ed into this country. The car is of a  
make known as the "Panhard," manu-  
factured in France in 1899. It was  
brought over to California for a suc-  
cessful miner, "Lucky Baldwin," who  
later took the car to Brooklyn. Mr.  
Joseph Devantray, a son of Baldwin,  
presented the car to the Institute. The  
car is in perfect condition. The  
only replacement was the substitution  
of electrical ignition for the hot  
bulb type.

The car was brought over from the  
show rooms of the Patent Department  
of the National Auto Chamber of Com-  
merce under its own power to the Mu-  
seum, where it will be on permanent  
exhibition.

### University of Toronto

It is not necessary to go to the  
North Pole to freeze. Professor J. C.  
McLellan of the University of Toronto  
reports that he has liquefied Helium  
gas and, in doing so, had reached the  
temperature of 272 degrees below zero,  
centigrade, or 1 degree absolute tem-  
perature. This is the first time this  
gas has been liquefied on a large scale,  
having once been liquefied on a very  
small scale in the University of Ley-  
den, Holland, about fifteen years ago.

### Columbia University

A totally blind war veteran has just  
made sixteen points in Columbia Col-  
lege where fifteen is the average. His  
courses include plane geometry, and he  
receives no special privileges or ex-  
emptions. The man's name is George

Kocserha, and lives in Hartley Hall,  
one of the residence halls of Columbia  
University. Far from being shown  
favoritism, Kocserha, in one course,  
was compelled to take the final ex-  
amination on a typewriter. He recit-  
ed daily in class along with the other  
students, and he crams through the  
holidays like the others, doing exten-  
sive reading outside his studies in  
Braille books. He is also a member  
of the university's Comeback Club.

### Cornell

Dr. Livingston Farrand, of Cornell,  
speaking before university men in  
Brooklyn, took direct issue with those  
educators of the country who have  
been suggesting that the only way to  
meet the problem of the over-crowded  
college is to create an "aristocracy of  
brains." The last few years have seen  
colleges and universities instituting se-  
lective measures as a means of attain-  
ing this end. Dr. Farrand declared  
that he did not believe any tests that  
could be applied would make the prop-  
er selection. He further ventured the  
suggestion that there was too much  
specialization in the higher institutions,  
too much getting away from the broad  
fundamentals of education that would  
make men of judgment fitted to be  
leaders in the country. Referring to  
the same topic he said:

"In the attempt of our American  
colleges to adapt themselves to chang-  
ing condition that time brings, we  
have tended to fall into fundamental  
difficulties and I think into serious  
error. We have gone too far from  
the simple, straight mental habits of  
clear thinking. We have gone too far  
along the lines of ultra-specialization.  
The cry from the engineering fields  
is not so much for the trained special-  
ist as it is for the man who knows  
economics, history and psychology,  
and who has a background against  
which he can lean for sound judgment  
when problems are presented. We  
have got to take stock anew. The so-  
cial and economic maladjustments are  
so great that we are in danger of not

only having our system of democracy  
submerged but of having our civiliza-  
tion go down."

### STUDENTS' NEED IN EUROPE DIRE

Conditions throughout Central Eu-  
rope and Russia are of a nature that  
is almost unbelievable. A Russian re-  
fugee recently came into the Student  
Relief office in Prague wearing a suit  
of pajamas, which he said was abso-  
lutely the only clothing he owned.  
Frequently one suit of clothes will be  
shared by two or three students, one  
attending classes in it, while the others  
stay at home and wait for their turn.

At the present rate of exchange, the  
American dollar is so valuable in the  
regions concerned that \$45 will sup-  
port for a whole year one student in  
Russia, Poland, Austria, or Hungary.  
\$6 to \$10 will purchase a complete  
clothing outfit for a European man  
or woman student, while \$5 will give  
a substantial meal to 250 students.

To quote a letter from O. J. Fred-  
eriksen, a Dartmouth student who is at  
present in Russia doing Student  
Friendship Work: "Yesterday I went  
over to see a student who is laid up  
in the hospital. Lying on a dirty  
straw-stuffed bedding sack, covered  
with a single dingy blanket, he had  
every right to complain. Clothes he  
had sold for food and medicine, his  
whole property was right there, and  
the day before, so his pal told me, he  
had received a letter from his folks  
saying that they were unable to send  
him help.

The need for textbooks in the Uni-  
versities is fully as bad. There is one  
case on record where an economics  
class of refugees had only one text-  
book for the 250 members. In many  
cases, hand transcribed extracts are  
put in note books and passed around  
the students, who use them in turn.

A Freshman from the Amazon  
Put nighties of his Gramazon;

One reason's all

He was too tall

To get his own Pajamazons.

—Nebraska Awgwan.

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